

From: Kevin Garrison
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 1:22pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 24, 2002

John Ashcroft, Attorney General
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I totally support the decision of the Department of Justice to settle the Microsoft antitrust case. The concessions that Microsoft has made adequately address the concerns that Microsoft has, or will, engage in anticompetitive behavior.

Microsoft has demonstrated good faith by agreeing to terms that go well beyond what was initially at issue in the lawsuit. They have agreed to disclose its code for its competitors' use. They have agreed not to legally obligate third parties to exclusively distribute or promote Windows technology. They have agreed to be subjected to monitoring by a technical oversight committee. The threat of anticompetitive behavior is greatly diminished by these types of terms. The only downside to the agreement is that more of the states did not sign on to the settlement.

The settlement agreement is obviously well thought out. It was arrived at after a long period of negotiating by the parties. There is no reason to continue the litigation.

I appreciate your consideration of these comments. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kevin Garrison